

**Because of the State of Emergency declared by Missouri Governor Parson and the need to keep the public safe from the Coronavirus Pandemic, the public will not be granted access to the council chamber during this meeting. The meeting will be live streamed in real-time on Lexington's Facebook page. Please contact City Hall if you have questions about viewing this meeting. Virtual Meeting May Be Seen at the Link Below <https://www.facebook.com/City-of-Lexington-MO-112243290184555/> The Meeting will be kept on permanent file.**

The pledge was presented and Mayor Joe Aull gave the invocation.

The City Council of the City of Lexington, Missouri met in Regular Session in the Council Chambers at the City Hall on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 with Mayor Aull presiding.

The Mayor called the meeting to order and roll being called, the following members of the council answered as follows: Present: Donna Sims, Steve Terry, Carolyn Houseworth, Rodney Wolken, Frank Ashinhurst, Earl Parris, Jim Pohle and Scott Lynn. Absent: none. Also present: Carla Ghisalberti, City Clerk and Mark O'Dell, City Administrator. Whereupon the Mayor declared a quorum present. Steve Terry was upstairs.

The Mayor gave a public statement regarding the pandemic. The council chambers were not accessible to the public. The council members, Administrator, Mayor and Clerk abided by the Governor's orders by spacing more than 6' apart and observing social distancing and by having no more than 10 persons present. The Mayor has seen and thanked the citizens for taking the precautions. Currently the City is not under a stay at home order. The Governor, last Saturday placed an order that goes until April 6<sup>th</sup>. The Order includes: social gatherings of no more than 10 people, does not allow for the consumption of food or drink on premises however they may use drive-thru, carry out or delivery, no one can visit a nursing home, hospital, assisted living facilities or other medical providers and the schools are to be closed. Currently the schools are closed until April 24<sup>th</sup>. The Mayor does not want to negatively impact a person's business. The Mayor wants to err on the side of health safety for the citizens. The stimulus package needs to include small cities and small businesses. Shop locally to support those local businesses, wash/sanitize hands and stay at home if you are sick. The City will get through this!

The Mayor added #6 HPC resignations/appointments to Consent Agenda Items. Motion by Ashinhurst seconded by Sims to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

**Citizen's Participation:** none.

**New Employee Introductions & Recognitions:** none.

**Consent Agenda Items:**

1. To approve the minutes of the Regular meeting on March 10, 2020. Motion by Parris seconded by Houseworth to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.
2. To approve the resignation of Ron Fuenfhausen, Janae Fuller and James Mackenzie and to approve the re-appointment of Greg Nitcher and the appointment of Larry Thomas and Bob Heggstad for a term of 3 years to expire 3/31/2023 to Historic Preservation. Motion by Lynn seconded by Houseworth to approve the resignations and appointments as presented. Motion carried.

**Financial Items:** none.

**Discussion Items:**

2010A COPS & 2010 Sewer Bond Refinancing: Charlie Zitnik, DA Davidson was on the phone to discuss the refinancing. The Series 2010 Sewerage System bonds have a balance of \$1,570,000 in outstanding principal with a range of 4.75% - 5.125% interest rate. The Series 2010A Certificates of Participation (C.I.) has a balance of \$1,175,000 with a range of 4.90% - 5.10%. With the refinancing this would free up \$160,000 for sewer improvements (release of restricted reserves) and reduce the interest expense by over \$470,797 over the remaining term without extending the final payment date. The new interest rate would be 2.21%. Sims presented Ordinance No. 2020-11 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF

LEXINGTON, MISSOURI, TO ENTER INTO A LEASE PURCHASE TRANSACTION, THE PROCEEDS OF WHICH WILL BE USED TO PAY THE COSTS OF CURRENTLY REFUNDING ALL OF THE CITY'S OUTSTANDING TAX-EXEMPT REFUNDING CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION, SERIES 2010A, AND SEWERAGE SYSTEM REFUNDING REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2010, AND A PORTION OF THE COSTS OF A PROJECT; AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS AND ACTIONS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

Motion by Parris seconded by Lynn to read the ordinance the first time. Motion carried. Ordinance read the first time.

Motion by Parris seconded by Lynn to read the ordinance the second time. Motion carried. Ordinance read the second time.

Motion by Parris seconded by Houseworth to place the ordinance on its final passage. Motion carried. ROLL CALL VOTE was answered as follows: Aye: Sims, Houseworth, Wolken, Ashinhurst, Parris, Pohle, Lynn and Terry. Nay: none. Absent: none. Whereupon the Mayor declared the ordinance duly passed.

FY2021 Budget: The preliminary budget was approved at the last council meeting with a few adjustments in the final budget. Parris asked about help for the Bldg. Insp. Bldg. Insp Petray would like to get buildings/homes refurbished versus demolition. Petray is proposing amending the demolition budget from \$40,000 to \$27,500 with the balance to be used for a part-time or contract person to help with inspections. The individual would go around and look at homes to make initial inspections, they will do no paperwork. The police department is also helping with nuisances and the office staff has been helping with paperwork. The City Administrator is recommending a contract person that would be able to start earlier on property maintenance – Petray would do the final approval on all inspections and do all permitting. A contract person could be better regulated as far as time spent – Petray figured \$12.00 for 20 hours per week. Maybe a person that does inspections for banks, realtors or a licensed contractor could be used. With upcoming possible issues with the pandemic the budget committee will have to keep a close eye on revenues. The City is interested in applying for a CDBG demolition grant for \$200,000 which will take a considerable amount of time with pictures, asbestos inspections, obtaining ownership information and other required forms. The bottom line for the budget will not change. Motion by Parris seconded by Sims to approve reducing the demolition budget to \$27,500 and use \$12,500 to hire an outside part-time contractor. Motion carried. Motion by Parris seconded by Lynn to approve FY2021 budget as amended. Motion carried. The Budget Committee will meet on May 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am in council chambers.

EMS COVID-19 Resolution: A resolution was presented regarding the possible quarantine of EMS personnel whereby reducing the number of crucial trained personnel. If there is a shortage the Fire Chief can use non-licensed people to help respond and drive ambulance vehicles. If needed other licensed ambulance services may be brought to assist. If a trauma, stroke or stemi occurs it may be diverted to other facilities if hospital is on diversion. Motion by Lynn seconded by Wolken to read the resolution. Motion carried. Sims presented Resolution No R-2020-02 COVID19 CORONA VIRUS EMERGENCY SITUATION. Motion by Lynn seconded by Wolken to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried.

City Emergency Declared: Currently the City is under the Governors order, however some cities have stay home orders – only essential businesses can be open. Administrator O'Dell asked Nathan Nicolas to review what the Mayor can currently do in emergency situations as far as declaring an emergency. Under current ordinances in case of an emergency council would have a vote to grant the Mayor authority to declare an emergency. With the new ordinance the Mayor has immediate action to declare an emergency, it allows for procurement under these conditions and the Mayor can determine business closures. The ordinance only allows for a 30 day period until terminated by Mayor or council but can be extended with approval of council. Motion by Ashinhurst seconded by Sims to approve implementing an ordinance for a State of Emergency. Motion carried. Sims presented Ordinance No. 2020-12 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 8 "EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT", BY ADDING SECTION 8-10 THROUGH SECTION 8-18 OF THE LEXINGTON CITY CODE OF LEXINGTON, MISSOURI. Motion by Houseworth seconded by Lynn to read the ordinance the first time. Motion carried. Ordinance read the first time. Motion by Ashinhurst seconded by Wolken to read the ordinance the second time. Motion carried. Ordinance read the second time. Motion by Lynn seconded by Parris to place the ordinance on its final passage. Motion carried. ROLL CALL VOTE was answered as follows: Aye: Sims, Houseworth, Wolken, Ashinhurst, Parris, Pohle, Lynn and Terry. Nay: none. Absent: none. Whereupon the Mayor declared the ordinance duly passed. An emergency government proclamation was given to council to review- there was some wording in the proclamation that the Mayor was not comfortable with. The Mayor will be following the mandates set by the Governor, Lafayette County has taken no further action and council has agreed to take no further action.

Sector K9 Dog: SRO Beckfield was awarded a grant for a K9 dog and the training. The school board has approved moving forward with the grant. Through the grant the dog and training are donated at a value of \$10,000, once training is completed the ownership of the dog is the City's. The dog will reside with Beckfield – the costs during training and future costs will be food and vet care, try to obtain donations for future costs. There is discussion with the school about splitting the costs similar to the SRO position and vehicle. The dog will be used as a comfort dog and to search for drugs - start drug control early in kid's lives. A bite dog becomes a liability in certain situations like schools. Lafayette County and the Highway Patrol both

have drug dogs; it may be possible to rotate these duties so someone is available at all times and to share the training. Sims presented Ordinance No. 2020-13 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AND EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN SECTION K9, LLC AND THE LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT, CITY OF LEXINGTON, MISSOURI. Motion by Pohle seconded by Wolken to read the ordinance the first time. Motion carried. Ordinance read the first time. Motion by Lynn seconded by Houseworth to read the ordinance the second time. Motion carried. Ordinance read the second time. Motion by Lynn seconded by Parris to place the ordinance on its final passage. Motion carried. ROLL CALL VOTE was answered as follows: Aye: Sims, Houseworth, Wolken, Ashinhurst, Parris, Pohle, Lynn and Terry. Nay: none. Absent: none. Whereupon the Mayor declared the ordinance duly passed.

Water Shut Offs: There is an ordinance that mandates water shut off or disconnection for nonpayment of utility bill after a specific time. The Mayor is recommending that due to the pandemic the council consider not shutting off water. Before the pandemic was declared there were a few individuals that had water shut off, those were reconnected after the declaration. Council can extend waiving on monthly basis. Motion by Lynn seconded by Sims to waive the ordinance regarding shut offs for the next 30 days. Motion carried.

**Reports:**

**Committee Reports:**

Administration- Next meeting April 28, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

Municipal Services- Next meeting April 14, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

**Liaisons:** no reports.

**Department Heads:** Written reports submitted.

**City Administrator Report:** none.

- a. Facebook Live Stream- Administrator O'Dell stated that there have been 36 favorable comments with 90 people watching. Comments towards the K9 and water shut offs.

**Grants:** none.

**Items from Prior Council:**

- a. Old Police Car- Sold to the City of Higginsville for \$2,000, they have paid and picked up. The 2<sup>nd</sup> old car may be used by the Mayor or Administrator.

**Council Concerns/Comments:**

- a. Old Period Street Lights- Parris asked for an update on the repair or replacement costs – no new info. There were some of the lights by WMA, however they did not want to sale them.
- b. Food Pantry Van- Sims asked about the van, the van was paid for through the H&W monies, it was agreed that the van would be parked in City Hall parking lot so it could be accessible to other groups.
- c. Cross Training- Parris asked who is getting trained. Petray, the existing staff and a retired person have been doing cross training at the water plant in case of an emergency. What about MEMS? MEMS manages the plant, the employees are City.
- d. Trespassing Ordinance- Houseworth asked about the ordinance to be reviewed by P&Z, however they cancelled their meeting. Wolken asked if the Police Chief and Prosecutor discussed. It will come up at the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting
- e. April Election- Parris commented on the election being postponed to June 2<sup>nd</sup> – council members will remain in their positions until that election.

**Mayor's Comments:**

- a. Council Meeting- The Mayor asked if council wanted to postpone that meeting or wait to see. The only issue is the approval of the bills since the election is postponed.

Motion by Parris seconded by Lynn to adjourn. Motion carried. Council adjourned at 8:17 pm.

Carla Ghisalberti  
City Clerk  
03/24/2020

Joseph M. Aull  
Mayor

### **Upcoming Events**

- Council Meeting Dates- April 14, 2020 and April 28, 2020 at 7:00 pm.
- Moose Lodge Bingo- Every Friday night at 6:00 pm.
- VFW Breakfast- March 21, 2020 from 7 – 10 am.
- River City Square Dancing- March 22, 2020 at the Methodist Church from 6 – 8:30 pm.
- HCC Piccadilly- March 26, 2020 at The LEX.
- Baby Grace Diaper Handout- March 28, 2020 at the Methodist Church from 9-11 am.
- Sounds of the Heart- March 28, 2020 at the Middle School at 7 pm.
- Forest Grove Cemetery Work Day- March 28, 2020 at 9 am.
- Women of the Moose Breakfast- March 28, 2020 from 7:30 – 10:30 am.
- Wind Symphony- March 29, 2020 at 3:00 pm at The LEX.
- Mic Night- April 5, 2020 at the VFW.
- Moose Waffle Breakfast- April 11, 2020 from 7:30-11:00 am.
- Moose Easter Bunny- April 11, 2020 from 9:00-10:00 am.
- Park Board Easter Egg Hunt- April 11, 2020 at 11:00 am at Community Park.
- River City Players- April 17, 18, 24 & 25, 2020 at VFW.
- Transition Resource Fair- April 18, 2020 at Big River Ranch.
- Victims' Rights 5k Run/Walk- April 25, 2020 at Confederate Park in Higginsville.
- River City Square Dancing- April 26, 2020 at the Methodist Church from 6 – 8:30 pm
- Mo. Rural Services- April 23, 2020 Annual Work Comp Meeting at Camdenton.
- Blue Jean Bash- April 30, 2020 in Marshall from 5:30-8:30 pm
- Elected Officials Training- June 4-5, 2020 in Columbia.